

*Stanley*

**STANLEY**  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**  
*(Annfield Plain Area).*

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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH**  
**for the Year 1937.**

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**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH**  
**for the Year 1937.**





**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS :**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H.,  
(Part Time)

for the Annfield Plain Area of the Stanley Urban  
District Council.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

S. L. HETHERINGTON.  
(Whole Time).

Inspector of Nuisances' Certificate, R.S.L.

also

Meat and Food Certificate, R.S.I.

INACLETE HOUSE,  
ANNFIELD PLAIN,  
JUNE, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report upon the Health and General Sanitary condition of the Annfield Plain Area of your District for the Year 1937.

Annfield Plain having ceased to exist as an Urban entity on the 31st March, 1937, this report is therefore but a sectional one of the new District, and the collating and arranging of the usual Vital Statistics was made somewhat difficult to adjust to the composite method now adopted by the Registrar General under the new boundary arrangement.

Causes of deaths, tabulated under various generic heads, Vital Statistics, and the estimated population of the district, is always supplied by the Registrar General, and from this information per millages and comparisons, in order to simplify and make more understandable the health conditions of the District from year to year, is worked out.

The Statistics supplied to me was only for the first three months of the year 1937, from that date the statistics of the New Area was merged into one, and some disintangling was necessary. The information in my own possession and the assistance of the local Registrar overcame the difficulty. Possibly the tabulation of deaths may vary slightly from the Registrar General's, but that is not of any vital importance as the facts are not in dispute.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H.

## Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres)	...	...	....	3,475
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	15,931
Number of inhabited houses (1937)	...	...	...	3,716
Estimated Population	...	...	...	15,500
Population (Census)	1901	1911	1921	1931
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,481	16,552	16,351	15,931

Coal mining being practically the only industry in the area, the social and commercial amenities are therefore entirely dependant on its prosperity.

For some years past the output of coal was almost at vanishing point but now, owing to the general economic improvement of trade with overseas countries and at home, the collieries are working more regularly and many of the unemployed have again been absorbed by the industry, with the result that the wheels of the social and commercial interests of the district revolve with much less creaking.

There is no better antidote to depression and discontent in any community than steady and remunerative employment ; it fortifies a man's self-respect as well as assists in maintaining his physical fitness and health. A man, it is said, feels his meanest when hungry, to which may also be added the thought that he is a useless branch of the industrial tree and sees no chance of revivification.



Relief.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Ordinary ...	£16,264/15/9	£18,207/14/5	£19,680/18/7	£19,810/0/0	£19,658/11/5
Unemployed	£6,263/0/10	£7,202/0/7	£7,370/19/0	£6,500/10/0	£1,449/2/3
	£22,527/16/7	£25,409/15/0	£27,051/17/7	£26,310/10/0	£21,107/13/8

The amount disbursed in ordinary relief is slightly less than the previous year but, nevertheless, these figures are a sad indication of the amount of poverty still in the district. There is less unemployment among the able bodied at the moment, and the hope is that this spurt in the coal industry may continue. The reduction during the year of over £5,000 in relief to able-bodied men is certainly encouraging.



### Vital Statistics.

Live Births	{		M	F	} Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 15.1
		Legitimate	226=119	107	
		Illegitimate	8= 5	3	
		Total	234=124	110	
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate	5= 2	3	} Rate per 1000 total (live and still-births) births ... 20.92
		Illegitimate	0= 0	0	
		Total	5= 2	3	
Deaths	...	...	171= 84	87	} Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 11.03
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ other Puereral causes	...	...	...	...	1
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births					55.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					35.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	0
„ Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	13

It is satisfactory to state that there was only one death associated with the Puerperium and one from Puerperal Sepsis. The deaths from Cancer, all forms, is exactly half of the previous year.

35 of the above 171 deaths died in various institutions outside the District.

The following statement gives the Vital Statistics for the County as compared with those of your District :—

	County.	Annfield Plain
	(per 1,000 population)	
Birth-rate ... ..	16.95	15.97
Death-rate ... ..	12.10	11.03
Zymotic death-rate ... ..	0.45	0.26
Small Pox ... ..	nil	nil
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.02	nil
Diphtheria ... ..	0.25	0.25
Enteric Fever ... ..	0.002	nil
Measles ... ..	0.03	nil
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.04	nil
Diarrhoea (under 2) ... ..	0.11	nil
Phthisis ... ..	0.57	0.64
Influenza ... ..	0.36	0.38
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy	1.03	1.03
Infantile Mortality-rate ...	70 per 1000 births	55.55
Maternal Mortality-rate ...	4.65	0.64

Birth rate for England and Wales ... ..	14.9
Death rate for England and Wales ... ..	12.4
Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales ...	58.0

The above rates per 1000 of the population compare favourably with the County averages and for the whole Country. The infant mortality rate for the Area is the lowest on record.

Causes of Death.				Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	84	87
1 Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	2
2 Influenza	..	...	...	4	2
3 Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	5	5
4 Other Tubercular Diseases...	...	...	...	2	1
5 Cancer	...	...	...	8	5
6 Liver diseases	...	...	...	1	1
7 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	5	5
8 Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0	1
9 Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	0	1
10 Congenital debility, premature birth, &c.	...	...	...	9	2
11 Senility	...	...	...	7	14
12 Other violence	...	...	...	2	0
13 Other defined diseases	...	...	...	8	11
14 Ill-defined diseases, or unknown	...	...	...	2	3
15 Diabetes	...	...	...	0	1
16 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	8	10
17 Heart disease	...	...	...	6	6
18 Other circulatory diseases	..	...	...	5	7
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	6	5
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	..	...	3	2
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	1	0
22 Peptic ulcer	..	...	...	1	0
Deaths of infants	{	Total	...	8	5
under 1 year		Legitimate	...	6	2
		Illegitimate	..	2	3
Live Births	{	Total	...	124	110
...		Legitimate	...	119	107
		Illegitimate	...	5	3
Stillbirths	{	Total	...	2	3
...		Legitimate	...	2	3
		Illegitimate	...	0	0
Population (estimated)				...	15,500

Summary of work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the Year 1937

I. Public Health Acts.		Informal Notices written by Inspector.	Notices by Order of Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.	General Remarks.
Dwelling houses and Schools	{ Foul conditions ... Structural defects ... Overcrowding ...	9 122 21 nil	Nil " " "	9 118 21 nil	Dirty houses Defective roofs, windows, walls
Lodging-houses	...	2	"	2	
Dairies and Milkshops	...	3	"	3	Renovated dairies
Cowsheds	...	nil	"	nil	Remodelled cowsheds
Bakehouses	...	nil	"	nil	
Slaughter-houses...	...	59	"	59	Defective doors and ashpits replaced by ashbins
Ashpits and Privies	...	1	"	1	
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	8	"	8	Defective cisterns & W.C. basins
Waterclosets	...	13	"	13	
Defective Yard paving	...	5	"	5	
House Drainage { Defective Traps No Disconnection from Sewers	...	80 18 nil	" " "	80 18 nil	Privy conversions Choked drains
Water Supply	...	"	"	"	
Pigsties	...	"	"	"	
Animals improperly kept	...	"	"	"	
Offensive Trades	...	"	"	"	
Smoke Nuisances	...	"	"	"	
Other Nuisances	...	"	"	"	
Totals	...	341		337	



### Water Closets.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Water Closets	2242	2389	2539	2782	3028
Ash Closets	891	817	763	610	468
Ash-pit Privies	260	226	176	176	140
Ashbins (moveable)	268	325	475	723	969

150 privies have been converted to Water closets under the Voluntary Scheme in operation.

The total number of Water closets is now 3028, each year adding to the number.

There are many conversions yet to be done in order to complete the elimination of the more objectionable Ash-pits.

Ash-pit-privies converted into Ash-closets	...	none
Do. do. Water-closets	...	none
Ash-closets do. do.	...	150
Total number of Water-closets in District	...	3028
Do. Ash-closets do.	...	468
Do. Ash-pit privies do.	...	140
Ash-bins ...	...	969

### Scavenging.

The Scavenging is carried out satisfactorily, and complaints are few and far between.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

The extension of the water-carriage system, owing to conversions and the erection of many new buildings has necessitated the planting of new Sewerage Works at Greencroft, East Castle and Dipton.

# General Provisions of Health Services.

## Hospitals.

### Ambulance Facilities.

Clinics, &c.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Midwives.

## Health Visitors.

Public Health Officers.

## Adoptive Acts.

All these Services, &c., are same as in previous Reports.

## Adoptive Acts.

The following Adoptive Acts are in force in the District, viz.:

- 1 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Sections 3 and 4.
- 2 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Parts 2, 3, 4 & 5.
- 3 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part vii,  
Section 86 (Police).
- 4 Public Health Act, 1925, Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- 5 Houses of Working Classes Act, 1890, Sections 1, 2 and 3.
- 6 Private Street Works Act, 1892.
- 7 Public Libraries Act.
- 8 Bath and Wash-houses Acts.

### Bye-Laws :—

- 1—New Streets and Buildings.
- 2—Slaughter Houses.
- 3—Prevention of Nuisances.
- 4—Common Lodging Houses.
- 5—Cleansing of Footpaths, Ashpits, etc.
- 6—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

# Inspection and Supervision of Food.

## Milk Supply.

### Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Cowsheds	Dairymen	Purveyors of Milk
16	39	51
Number of visits made to Dairies and Cowsheds	...	74
Number of Notices served	...	5

Much greater care, owing to recent legislation and constant inspection, is taken in the methods of distribution and milking. The old insanitary methods are passing away, and farmers and dairymen realise the enormous importance, from the health point of view, of providing good wholesome milk to the community. From the cow to the consumer, milk should be handled with the most scrupulous sanitary precautions to prevent contamination.

The cowsheds of three farms have been remodelled and brought into harmony with the newest and most sanitary requirements; also, new dairy and sterilizing houses have been provided. Two of these have been granted Accredited Licence for their milk.

Accommodation at one farm was for 40 cows, at another, 20.

## Bacteriological Report.

### Milk.

13 samples were reported upon, with the following Coliform Content.

1 C.C.	...	positive	15
1 C.C.	...	„	12
01 C.C.	...	„	8
001 CC.	...	„	3

The average per. centage of Butter Fat was 3.62, the Solids-not-fat was 8.8, the quality of the milk was therefore above the standard laid down by the Board of Agriculture.

II. WATER, FOOD AND DRUGS.		Number	Remarks.
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	Nil	{ 1 Carcase of Beef and Organs 1 Carcase of a Pig 24 stone of Beef
" " condemned as unfit for use...	...	Nil	
Seizures of Unwholesome Food	...	18	{ Ox Lungs 4 Ox Livers 18 Pigs Heads 5 Pigs Lungs 1 Pigs Livers 1 24-lbs. Cooked Ham
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food ..	...	Nil	Milk Samples
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis	...	26	
" " found Adulterated	...	Nil	



	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	673	—	11	1039	575
Number inspected ...	673	—	11	999	560
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole Carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	17	—	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

**Notifiable Diseases reported during the Year, 1937.**

Disease.			Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	...	...	147	147	3
Erysipelas	..	...	2	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		...	1	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	14	0	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	55	49	0
Total			220	196	13

There were 45 more notifiable diseases this year than last, and 59 more cases of Diphtheria, one more of Pneumonia, and 7 less of Scarlet Fever.

**Number of Infectious Diseases notified per month for 1937.**  
**(including Tuberculosis).**

	Total	S.F.	Dip.	Ery.	Pn.	P Pyr'xia	T.B.	Opht. Neona torum
January ...		2	15	0	3	0	2	0
February		1	3	0	8	0	0	0
March		3	14	0	1	0	0	0
April		4	4	1	0	0	5	0
May		2	3	1	0	0	2	0
June		6	10	0	0	0	5	0
July		4	4	0	1	1	2	0
August		2	12	0	0	0	1	0
September		3	16	0	0	0	3	1
October		2	10	0	0	0	0	0
November		13	31	0	0	0	0	0
December		13	25	0	1	0	7	0
Total	247	55	147	2	14	1	27	1

From 1st January to 30th June	...	95	}	247
From 1st July to 31st December	...	152		
Diphtheria—January 1st to 30th June	...	49	{	147
„ July 1st to 31st December	..	98		

**Tuberculosis.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	1	1	3	2	...	...	...	...
25	3	6	1	0	1	2	...	...
35	3	1	1	2	1	1	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
55	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
65	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Totals	8	10	5	4	5	6	1	1
	18		9		11		2	

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

CASES.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
I	I	O	I	O	O	O



Analysis of the total cases under all groups.

Disease.	Total	Under 1 yr	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
Diphtheria ...	147	0	3	6	6	10	54	42	12	9	3	2
Erysipelas ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Oph. Neonatorum	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Pneumonia ...	14	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	5	2	5
Scarlet Fever ...	55	1	5	3	5	4	26	8	1	1	0	1
Total ...	220	2	8	10	11	14	81	50	13	16	5	10

### Bacteriological Examinations.

The following table gives particulars of the specimens sent in by medical practitioners in the district for examination during the year, in accordance with the arrangement made between the C.C. and the Durham College of Medicine.

	Number of Specimens Submitted.	RESULTS.		
		Positive	Negative	Inconclusive
Enteric ...	1	0	1	0
Diphtheria ...	127	27	98	2
Phthisis (sputum)	41	8	33	0
TOTALS ...	169	35	132	2

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied to practitioners in the area, if and when application is made to the Medical Officer of Health.

### Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of infectious bedding stoved or destroyed	...	1
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	26
Schools disinfected after infectious disease	...	nil
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things	...	nil
Convictions for exposure of infected persons or things	...	nil

### IMMUNIZATION.

In July, 1936, circulars were distributed through the schools and otherwise advising parents to have their children immunized against Diphtheria, as a possible protection against contracting the disease which was, at that time, rather prevalent in the district. The immunization was offered free to children under 8 years.

149 took advantage of the offer, and none, that I can discover, suffered any reaction from the injection. Nine of those injected contracted Diphtheria, one 6 days after and another 8 months, the shortest and longest date after the injection. The prophylactic was the A.P.T. and only one 5CC's. was administered intramuscularly in the left arm. There was no previous Schick Test. Up to the 31st December, 1937, 6% contracted the disease. The immunization has, so far, protected 94% of those injected.

## Housing Statistics.

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	171
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	156
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. ..	49
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	49
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	10
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	150

### 2. *Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	150
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### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

#### A.—Proceedings under section 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	nil



## B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	122
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	119
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

## C.—Proceedings under section 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	32

## D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	nil

32 new houses were demolished under the Slum Clearance Scheme.

96 new houses were occupied during the year, and others are in course of erection.



*1--Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces,  
1397.*

Premises.  1	Number of		
	Inspections. 2	Written Notices. 3	Occupiers prosecuted. 4
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	12	nil	nil
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	14	nil	nil
Workplaces ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	nil	nil	nil
Total ...	26	nil	nil

*2--Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Particulars.  I	Number of Defects			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—</i>	No defects found.			
Want of Cleanliness ... ..				
Want of Ventilation ... ..				
Overcrowding ... ..				
Want of Drainage of Floors .				
Other Nuisances... ..				
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient ... ..				
{ Unsuitable or Defective				
{ Not Separate for Sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..				
Other Offences ... ..				
(Including offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total .. ..				

W. M. MORISON, D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1938.



